

MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING

**Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Annex
66 Prospect Street**

Anyone requiring special accommodations due to disability is asked to contact Headquarters at 438-6531 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Commissioners Present: Marianne Coffin, Chairperson
George Kain, Secretary
Issy Caporale
John Frey
Ralph Money

Also Present: Chief Jeff Kreitz
Major Shawn Platt
Captain Bryan Terzian

These minutes are an overview of the meeting; not a verbatim text.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by Chairperson Coffin.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Coffin requested a motion to accept the minutes of the September 9, 2021 Police Commission Meeting. Commissioner Kain made the motion and Commissioner Money seconded the motion.

All in favor

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE

A. Voicemail

Commissioner Kain received one voicemail message from a resident with a traffic concern on Fillmore Lane. Commissioner Kain had previously spoke with the Chief and contact will be made with the resident.

B. Written Correspondence

Commissioner Kain signed a written roadway use permit for the

downtown Halloween Walk.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. 1. Uniform Division Commander Annual Report

Captain Terzian updated the Commissioners on the equipment, Accountability Bill and the effect it has had on officers. Captain Terzian went on to explain that officers are active on the roadways conducting traffic enforcement details. Captain Terzian stated that most of Ridgefield's crime is mostly related to juvenile crime, which is happening throughout the state. Most of these crimes are stolen motor vehicles and larcenies from motor vehicles committed by juveniles from out of town. He explained that most of the stolen vehicles are recovered within a few days to a few weeks. Captain Terzian praised the officers for their professionalism and dedication to the department and the citizens of Ridgefield.

He thanked previous School Resource Officer Daly for his years of service as an SRO, and welcomed Officer Samoskevich to replace SRO Daly. He also praised Officer Caba and Officer Williams for their assistance filling in at the schools when needed. Captain Terzian spoke highly of the Records Division Personnel Alison Heibeck and Elaine Wasicki, for their daily assistance with records requests and countless other duties. Discussion regarding the Uniform Division Commander Annual Report ensued.

A.2. Detective Division Report

Captain Terzian has been filling in for Captain Comstock for the past few months. He explained that the detectives assist with most cases that are going to be lengthy or more in depth investigations. Also, they assist in the collection of evidence to include DNA, Fingerprints, and Physical Evidence. He briefly explained the duties of all the members of the Detective Division: Det. Papstein, Det./Y.O. Dardis, Det. DuBord, and Det. Ryan. The Detective Division has handled or assisted in the following cases in 2021:

- 3- Death Investigations
- 7- Burglaries
- 10- Identity Thefts
- 21- Larcenies
- 4- Stolen M/V
- 4- Sex Assaults
- 122- Pistol Permits

Detectives have made 6 felony arrests (larcenies and sexual assault included)

He stated that the Juvenile Review Board is a positive resource for less serious crimes, which has been well received. Discussion regarding the Detective Division Report ensued.

B. State Project 0174-0424 Semi-Final Design Plan Review (Route 7/Haviland Road)

The Chief has reviewed the plan, and recommends that the pedestrian crossing button remains in place with no change.

C. PBA Fundraising Letter

Chairperson Coffin made a motion to make a couple minor changes with the wording of the PBA Fundraising letter and suggested corrections be made before being sent to print. The Commissioners recommended that it be noted that the PBA is not a 501(c)3 as well as a change to the language. Commissioner Money seconded the motion.

All in Favor

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Building Feasibility Study

Chief Kreitz stated that the Building Feasibility Study is an ongoing process in which the site is the old Schlumberger property. The process is continuing to move forward.

6. CHIEF'S REPORT

A. Traffic/Sign Report

Sign Officer Mark Caswell had nothing to report.

B. Training/PR Report

The following report was submitted by Major Shawn Platt.

**Ridgefield Police Department
Training & Community Policing/Public Relations Report
September 2021**

Training Attended:

Sept. 20-21: Det. Ryan attended Background Investigation Training held at Fairfield PD.

Sept. 24: Capt. Terzian, Lt. Raines, Sgt. Clarke, PO Luis and PO Gjodesen, attended annual Firearms Qualification Training at Wooster

Mountain Range.

Sept. 25: Sgt. Brown, PO Samoskevich, PO Romero, PO Caswell, PO Ladue, PO DiFalco, PO Geller and PO McKnight attended annual Firearms Qualification Training at Wooster Mountain Range.

Sept. 28-29: Lt. Gates, Sgt. Brown, PO Romero, PO McMahon, PO VanWattum, PO Caswell, PO Shimko, PO Geller and PO McKnight attended Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Recert held in Ridgefield PD Training Room.

Virtual Training Attended:

N/A

P/R Events:

A total of 13 Public Relations were performed during the month(s) to include:

- Various talks with downtown shop owners and community members at large.
- Continued stop and talks at houses of worship during Holy Days.
- Multiple Social Media posts of Police Activities & Safety Messages.

C. Department Statistics

Chief Kreitz reported the total incidents for the month of September was 944. He also highlighted some of the statistics for the month.

7. UNION PARTICIPATION

None

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION - to discuss personnel matters

A. Town safety and security deployment of personnel.

Commissioner Frey made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:04 pm to discuss Employee Performance. Commissioner Caporale seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Police Commission returned to Public Session at 9:26 pm. No votes were taken.

Commissioner Money made a motion to adjourn the Police Commission Meeting at 9:27 pm. Commissioner Caporale seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

George Kain
Police Commission Secretary